

Message Text

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ACTION SCA-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SCS-05 SS-15 H-02 DHA-02
L-03 NSC-05 JUSE-00 SNM-02 DEAE-00 (ISO) W
-----107899 192143Z /14
R 180330Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4048

UNCLAS KABUL 5755

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC, AF
SUBJECT: PROTECTIVE CONSULAR SERVICES

REF: STATE 189686

1. DUE TO INADEQUATE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE FACILITIES IN AFGHANISTAN, EMBASSY PLAYS PRIMARY ROLE IN ASSISTING AMERICAN CITIZENS. CONSULAR PROTECTION AND WELFARE SERVICES ARE MONITORED BY DCM AND ME ON WEEKLY BASIS. FRONT OFFICE AND CHIEF OF CONSULAR SECTION DISCUSS CASES INVOLVING SPECIAL PROBLEMS AS THEY ARISE.

2. AMERICAN CITIZENS UNDER DETENTION ARE VISITED BY CONOFFS OR CONSULAR FSL'S AT LEASE TWICE MONTHLY AND OFTEN ON WEEKLY BASIS. CONOFFS WORK CLOSELY WITH LOCAL DEA REPRESENTATIVE ON ALL DRUG-RELATED MATTERS AND COORDINATE CLOSELY WITH RSO. CONSULAR SECTION ALSO COORDINATES WITH LOCAL CHARITABLE GROUPS IN CASES INVOLVING ARREST, DESTITUTION AND ILLNESS. ARRANGEMENTS EXIST FOR NON-OFFICIAL AMERICANS TO OBTAIN MEDICAL CARE FROM ENGLISH-SPEAKING DOCTORS WHO WORK UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF CANADIAN AND AMERICAN CARE-MEDICO DOCTORS. IN EMERGENCIES, CARE-MEDICO DOCTORS WILL PERSONALLY TREAT AMERICAN PATIENTS. IN COOPERATION WITH TRAVELERS OPEN DOOR AND FRENCH EMBASSY, TOURISTS
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NOW HAVE ACCESS TO MEDICAL TREATMENT BY FRENCH PHYSICIANS.

3. BECAUSE OF ARCHAIC NATURE OF LOCAL BANKING OPERATIONS, DESTITUTE TOURISTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO WIRE FOR FUNDS VIA DEPARTMENT'S SCS TRUST DEPOSIT SYSTEM.

4. CONSULAR SECTION ALSO WORKS CLOSELY WITH AFGHAN-AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL COMMISSION TO ASSIST AMERICAN SCHOLARS IN OBTAINING RESIDENCE VISAS. ALL TOURISTS WHO REMAIN IN AFGHANISTAN OVER ONE MONTH, OBTAIN CONSULAR ASSISTANCE IN PROCURING EXIT VISAS.

5. CONTINUOUS LIAISON IS MAINTAINED BY CONSULAR SECTION, MY WIFE AND ME WITH RESIDENT AMERICAN WIVES MARRIED TO AFGHAN CITIZENS, AND U.S. MISSION TAKES SPECIAL INTEREST IN THEIR WELFARE. CONSULAR MEMORANDA ARE SENT OUT FREQUENTLY TO KEEP THESE WOMEN INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS OF INTEREST TO THEM AND THEIR FAMILIES (CULTURAL ACTIVITIES, EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES, MEDICAL SERVICES, CHANGES IN CITIZENSHIP LAWS AND REGULATIONS).

6. CONOFFS MAINTAIN CLOSE, COOPERATIVE AND CORDIAL RELATIONS WITH GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN'S OFFICIALS WHO CAN AND DO ASSIST AMERICAN CITIZENS WHEN NEED ARISES.

7. RESPONSE OF AMERICANS WHO HAVE ENCOUNTERED DIFFICULTIES IN AFGHANISTAN AND HAVE RECEIVED EMBASSY ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN ALMOST UNIFORMLY FAVORABLE.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
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